

as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. His service is an example of excellence for young and old, including his thirty-five grandchildren. I congratulate him and I applaud him for his service.●

TRIBUTE TO WILLIE LOUIS KING

● Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, Willie Louis King of Niagara Falls, NY, took seriously his role as citizen-activist and acted on the democratic ideals that many of us only talk about. To honor Mr. King's memory, I ask that Ken Hamilton's eloquent tribute be printed in the RECORD.

The tribute follows:

WILLIE KING WALKED TO THE CIRCLE'S EDGE

I read Willie King's obituary, and it did not say enough. One of the problems with obituaries is that they are hastily written biographies of loved ones that attempt to convey to the world "who" the individual was and "whom" they leave to mourn. For most of us, that is fine, because our lives are about the "whos" (ourselves) and "whoms" closest to us, those who will mourn the end of our existence, as we know it.

More often than we know, many of those same people were about much more than just "who" and "whom," and their lives are not simply measured in the many names that are listed in the "survived by" paragraph of their obituaries. Though their lives were not ideal, nonetheless, they lived their lives based on ideals.

It was hard for the principled Willie King to change his mind about the things he strongly believed in. He was a dyed-in-the-wool Democratic committeeman, and I, a registered Republican and former committeeman who believes, among other things, that while party affiliation is a consideration, the value of the person is more important.

We were members of the same church, but even there, our encounters ended in political talk. Though Willie King and I disagreed upon many issues, he was the one man I knew who believed in one thing more than anything else in the world: It was more than everyone's right to vote; it was their responsibility to do so.

Perhaps it was his rural, southern upbringing and the associated hardships and attitude that were endemic in a then-segregated South, that led him to believe that ideal. He often spoke, and was qualified to do so, of those who had died—of all races—so that we might have that privilege. Yet while the youthful Willie King endured inequity in the South, the elder King believed in, and at every opportunity that he had, practiced equality in the North.

I know this because, as expected, this dyed-in-the-wool Democrat crossed racial lines and voted against me when I ran for state Senate and boldly let me know that he did so. Moreover, our mutual dear and tearful Italian friend, Tony Mondì, called me to tell me of Willie's passing. In the telling, he spoke of his last time seeing Willie.

It was Election Day, and Tony had talked to Zola, Willie's wife, and found that Willie, who was rapidly succumbing to the cancer that was ravaging his body, was too sick to go to the polls to vote. As far as anyone knew, this would be the first time that he would not exercise that privilege—no—responsibility, that he so dearly believed in.

Hanging around campaign headquarters that day were a couple of firefighters. Tony knowing how important it was to his friend, talked to them about the situation. "No problem," they said. "We'll go get him so that he can vote."

Tony called Zola, and all that she asked for was for 15 minutes. Off they went, into the rain, to exercise the ideal. Tony "chauffeured" his own big, black Cadillac, and the two firefighters, Greg Colangelo and Rick Horn, went into the house to "pick up" this man and "carry" him to the polls. There was a wheelchair available, but Willie was not going to have that! For as many years that he had voted, he had proudly walked into the polls and done so. There would be no prouder time for him than Tuesday, November 2, 1999. With all of the strength that he, and all of his ancestors, could muster, he again "walked" into those polls and voted—most probably, straight across the line!

Yes, this one-time fruit picker, Willie King, one rainy afternoon, dragging death behind him and carrying with him the memories of counseling with great political leaders, walked into the polls.

You know, I often hear people speak of others whom I have never met, and whom I will never know, of how they gave their lives for the ideal of democracy and our right to vote. These heroes all stand together in a very special place in history—Abraham, Martin, John, and others. On Nov. 12, as Willie King slept, cared for by his beloved wife; those heroes welcomed him, another King, to the edge of that very special circle.

Therefore, next Election Day, I am interested in hearing your excuse for knowing the issues, but not going out to vote. Walk proudly into those polls.

Willie did.●

KARI WARBERG WINS ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARD

● Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I want to congratulate Kari Warberg, a constituent of mine from New Town, ND, who was recently awarded the Regional Working Women's Excellence Award for 2001. Kari's farm-based business, Earthkind, Inc., was determined to have demonstrated the most outstanding entrepreneurial achievement for a woman-owned business in a region that covers eight States.

Earthkind, Inc. sells potpourri, candles, air freshener, and other products using plants from her garden. Kari spent five years developing her products, and through self-discipline and perseverance, she has made her business a success. Currently these products are sold in 5,000 stores throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe. She also sells her wares over the Internet.

This well-deserved award is a great honor for Kari Warberg, and I applaud her inventive spirit and her hard work. I hope that my colleagues will join me in sending her our congratulations.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:58 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 8. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to phase out the estate and gift taxes over a 10-year period, and for other purposes.

H.R. 642. An act to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 66. Concurrent resolution authorizing the printing of a revised and updated version of the House document entitled "Women in Congress, 1917-1990."

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 642. An act to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 66. Concurrent resolution authorizing the printing of a revised and updated version of the House document entitled: "Women in Congress, 1917-1990"; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 700. A bill to establish a Federal interagency task force for the purpose of coordinating actions to prevent the outbreak of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (commonly known as "mad cow disease") and foot-and-mouth disease in the United States.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 8. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to phase out the estate and gift taxes over a 10-year period, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted on April 5, 2001: